

J. Allan Coad, 78, Dies In Hospital

Leonardtown, Md., Jan. 23 [Special]—J. Allan Coad, who served in both houses of the General Assembly and who was for years the most powerful individual in the Legislature, died yesterday at University Hospital, Baltimore. He was 78.

Funeral services will be at 11 A.M. tomorrow at Porto Bello, Mr. Coad's estate on the St. Marys River. It will be followed by requiem mass in St. Georges Church, Valley Lee, Md., and burial in the church cemetery.

Mr. Coad, a staunch Democrat, was elected to the House of Delegates in 1919 and was twice re-elected. He went to the Senate in 1926 and served three terms.

In the early 1930's he was the leader of economy forces in the General Assembly, waging protracted campaigns for a reduction in State expenses and taxes.

He became the chairman of the all-powerful Senate Finance Committee in 1935 and handled the two budgets of the Republican administration of Gov. Harry W. Nice.

Senator Coad left public office in 1937 when he succeeded Hooper S. Miles, former State treasurer, as president of the County Trust Company and the County Corporation of Maryland. Mr. Coad retired about fifteen years ago upon the illness of his first wife. The bank through subsequent mergers 'is part of the Maryland National Bank.

Mr. Coad, a native of St. Marys county and descendant of an old Southern Maryland family, described himself as a "self-educated farmer."

Mr. Coad is survived by his second wife, Mrs. Laura H. Coad. The first Mrs. Coad died in 1951 after a five-year illness.